

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 06558 221215Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----077186 221321Z /47

R 221135Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3249
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 6558

EXDIS (HANDLE AS NODIS)

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS PCAT IS SA
SUBJ: ISRAELI REQUEST FOR U S ASSURANCES CONCERNING SALES
OF F-15'S TO SAUDI ARABIA

REFS: (A) STATE 127790, (B) TEL AVIV 6516

1. APPRECIATE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REF A. IT WAS PASSED
TO DAYAN ON SATURDAY, MAY 20, FOR POSSIBLE USE IN THE MAY 21
CABINET DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT.

2. THE TEXT OF MY LETTER TO DAYAN FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. MINISTER: / DURING OUR MEETING YESTER-
DAY MORNING YOU ASKED ME TO INQUIRE WHETHER THE U.S. GOVERN-
MENT COULD PROVIDE CERTAIN ASSURANCES CONCERNING LIMITA-
TIONS ON THE USE OF F-15 AIRCRAFT BY THE SAUDI ARABIAN
GOVERNMENT.

IN A LETTER DATED MAY 9, 1977, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN
ASSURED THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS
COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE FOLLOWING:

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A. "THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT HAS SIMILARLY ASSURED US
THAT IT WILL NOT TRANSFER THE F-15 AIRCRAFT TO ANY THIRD
COUNTRY OR PERMIT THE NATIONALS OF SUCH COUNTRY TO TRAIN ON
THE F-15 AIRCRAFT WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE UNITED
STATES."

B. "SAUDI ARABIA WILL BASE THE F-15 AIRCRAFT, NOT AT TABUK,

BUT AT DHAHRAN, TAIF AND POSSIBLY AT RIYADH OR KHAMIS MUSHAIT."

C. "THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA HAS ASSURED US THAT IT HAS NO AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS AGAINST ANY STATE, THAT IT WILL USE THE F-15 AIRCRAFT ONLY IN FURTHERANCE OF ITS LEGITIMATE SELF-DEFENSE, AND THAT IT WILL NOT EMPLOY THE AIRCRAFT OFFENSIVELY."

I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STATE THAT THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTS THESE ASSURANCES AS A BINDING COMMITMENT. ON MAY 12, THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF SAUDI ARABIA AUTHORIZED US TO STATE THAT SECRETARY BROWN'S LETTER ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE POSITION OF THE SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE ROYAL SAUDI GOVERNMENT.

I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF THE FULL TEXT OF SECRETARY BROWN'S LETTER FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND USE.

I HOPE THAT THIS INFORMATION WILL BE USEFUL TO YOU IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MATTER WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES. WITH WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS. END TEXT. LEWIS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY SALES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 22 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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